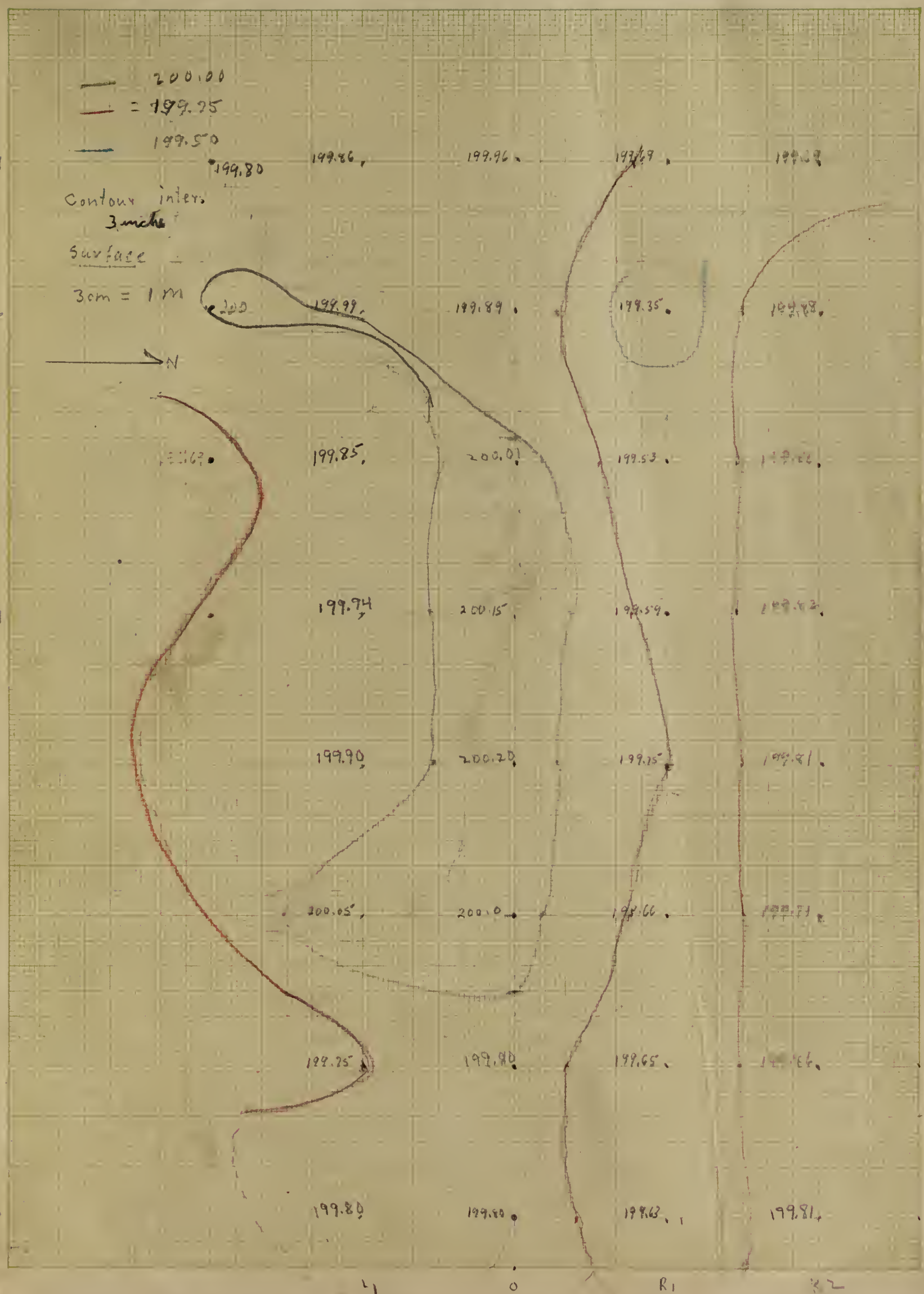
1941-1945

Box 25 folder 35


200.00
= 199.75
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Archaeological Survey of the village of "Old Kaskaskia" ~~village~~ and Starved Rock

about April 21, 1945

With the cooperation of Mr. Fuller an attempt was undertaken to locate the ~~[illegible]~~ this village, the historic Illinois village ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ was first noted by Marquette in 1673 on his ~~[illegible]~~ voyage up the Illinois River. The village was abandoned by the Illinois ~~upon the [illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ in about 1692. Historical ~~[illegible]~~ reconstruction based upon ~~[illegible]~~ French documents ~~[illegible]~~ indicated that the village was probably located ~~across~~ on the north bank of the Illinois River ~~from~~ ~~Starved Rock~~ across from Starved Rock and about ¼ mile ~~east~~ upstream ~~of that~~ from ~~prominence~~ Starved Rock.

Preliminary to ~~any~~ ~~[illegible]~~ examination of the village site, a surface survey was made of the top of Starved Rock. Grit and shell tempered sherds were found. The surface finish of these sherds was either cordmarked or smoothed and only one showed any decoration, it being a single wide line of incising. Small pieces of bone and flint were also found. Associated with this material was a rusted French knife blade. The site was numbered Lo 12.

The prominence* of Starved Rock was also explored and a few (3) sherds, which were grit tempered and 2 of them showing cordmarking were found. The site was numbered 11 ~~The Kaskaskia village site~~

~~On [illegible] with the~~ An archaeological reconnaissance was then encountered on the north bank of the Illinois River, slightly to the east of Starved Rock in the exact location that Marquette had indicated as being ~~the~~ where the ~~[illegible]~~ "Old Kaskaskia" village might ~~[illegible]~~ be found. The site was first encountered on the

* the 17th cent. fr. fort, Fort St. Louis, built by de Salle on the upper Illinois River.

land of Mr. Healy, ~~but rather~~ and was found to extend ~~this~~ ~~on to~~ the land of Messrs. Donner. Mr. Donner stated more dark
Incension. This ~~site~~ extended surface manifestation was designated as LA 13
(See map of area) Mr. Donner informed us that beads, copper wire
and skeletons had been found along the bank as the ~~[illegible]~~
upon the second day the site was further
~~investigated~~ examined. At this time a survey of the river bank
was made ~~to verify~~ with particular reference to cut in cross section and to
~~delineate~~ the thickness of ~~the [illegible]~~ of the refuse
deposits at the different places along the bank. Dr. Lowery noted
a pit along the inlet in the center of Donner land. Since
this pit and the adjacent area would soon be washed into
the river and since ~~the [illegible] first~~ excavation must be carried we decided
to ~~excavate the area~~. In the ~~first~~ pit (Pit I) quantities of shell,
bone, and artifacts were found. ~~The~~ Pit in cross section was
shown to be bell shaped. A second pit was, ~~also~~, found and
was, ~~too~~, seven feet 3½ inches north, NNW of the first
pit. It was also, bell shaped in cross section. ~~The~~ Pit contained
a skull, a flint, a flint child burial, blue glass beads (long ~~[illegible]~~
~~pearl~~ and small bell bearing size) a glass tube and 3 (or 6) coiled
copper ornaments.

On the third day ~~Mr.~~ Mr. Neal continued
the survey alone. Upon interviewing Mr. Seidmore, ~~he~~ I
received a skull and a pot (said to be associated with the skull).
~~[illegible]~~ He stated that he had found bones of them
protruding from the bank after the spring floods, and
interested river cutting, of 1944.

~~Pieces~~ pieces of charcoal that had been found
protruding from the banks on the east end of Donner's
land were obtained.

Finally, since the Healy farm had yielded
the largest number of artifacts and since there was no
river bank (the bank sloping gently down to the water's
edge) it was decided to excavate a small trench

~~That trench was~~ The trench comes to take one located ——— feet from the east large tree ~~bordering~~ bordering nearly level and ——— feet from the west large tree bordering Healy land. The trench was eight feet long and 4 feet wide (north-south) and at right angles to the cardinal points. In the west part of the trench the ~~deposit~~ cultural deposits were about 2 feet deep ~~and the~~ (the burned wood was 4 inches deep). ~~In the west section~~ A third pit (Pit III) was found, the trench 1½ feet deep, which extended to a depth of 4½ feet deep. The pit was full of shell, a few bones and bone implements were kept.

The following section represents an analysis of the material found, charted according to the ~~exact~~ location indicated on the map).

Lenjon found
copper cone at
Hildermeyer site -
Aberdeen Mississippian

---

burial mound,
flint shelter
— sherds and arrowpoints

Sherds.

Pottery features		Surface						Total	Under Excavation					Total	Danner Fund		
		P24	P1	P2	P3	P4	P13		P15	P17	P19	P21	P23		P5	P9	P11
Temper	shell		2			1	9		2	2	3	5	1		9	1	1
	grit	16	63	1	17	4	137		26	19	58	27	9			1	
Consistency	good					1					61						
	bad																
Hardness	2/2.5																
	3/3.5				17												
Surface finish	cord marking	3	3	1			8		3	2	7	7	1		6	1	1
	smooth	13	55		17		138			16	54	25	9		3	1	
	combed		3			1											
over coated	whole vessel																
	body only					1	1								5		1
	neck only																
Decorated area	lip					1											
	neck																
	body					1	4		1								
Kind of decoration on neck & body	trailed																
	Fine line incising																
	made long ones																
	combing		7		2		8		3		5	4	1				1
	punctate on shoulder					1											
Decoration on lip	punctate		1						punctate on rim								2
	flat	1	3				3		4	2		3					2
	rounded					1	1		1		1						
	outside notch		1			1											
	~~direct line incision~~		5														
Design element	chevron						1				3	1					
	curvilinear																
	lines paneled by punctate						1										
	appurtenances / punctate		1				3					1					
	punctate lines				1												
	concentric circles		1		1		2		1		1	1	1				1
	Herringbone				1												
Structure	Flaking																
Rim	High/Low	1				1	4		4	2		2	1				
neck	form	1															
	punctate					1											
	curved																
shoulder	rounded					1						2					
base	round					1											
	oval					1											
Handle	strap					1											2
	pierced																1
applique on neck.																	
corner - 2						1											

Artifacts

Kinds	P1	P2	P3	P24		P14		M16	M18	M22		M7	M7	M10 M7	M10
end scraper	1		1	1		1									
plano-convex round scraper				1		1									
Drill			1			1									
Δ projectile points	2					5									
polished celt	1														
bone scapular celt	1													1	
~~[illegible]~~ strap-like clamp			1			1									
red blue glass beads														1	
turquoise glass tube bead														1	
blue glass tube														1	
copper coils														1	
melted blue glass								1							
Bell shaped pots										1			1	1	
flexed burial														1	
flexed in bell shaped pot														1	
~~[illegible]~~															
extended burial on large	1	1	1	1											
burial goods														1	

Checking these materials against lists of author collections it is readily apparent that the sherds ~~are Oneota~~ typical Oneota in all but one feature: they are predominately grit not limestone not shell tempered. The material in the pit II and pit III which ~~have~~ were found with the Mississippian materials however are shell tempered and therefore are typically Oneota in all features. There are three possible solutions for this difference in ~~pottery~~ tempering material.

1. Local differentation within the Illinois tribe
2. That these differences indicate a temporal difference
3. That the shell tempered sherds represent trade wares.

At present no definative statements can be made concerning the above hypothesis. However, the high concentration of shell on the Cannon Farm seems to negate the ~~first~~ last possibility and the stratigraphic trends at Henley's farm seem to give some backing to the second possibility.

The remainder of the artifacts plus the floral ~~traits~~ traits, shape of the pits and the size of the village, all accord as Oneota traits. Checking against Wedel's Oneota aspect traits there have been found 35 out of the 74 traits listed. Only ~~two~~ 3 traits found at the site may be considered

different from Oneota aspect traits; ~~[illegible]~~
deer scapula celts, and temper combed surface finish,
and combed surface finish on ~~pottery~~. Thus 35 out
of the 39 ~~traits~~ found at Kinkaid village sites
belong to Oneota aspect. This seems to justify
the ~~tentative~~ assignment of this manifestation
to the ~~[illegible]~~ Oneota aspect of the upper phase of the
Mississippi pattern and the statement that
historic Illinois who occupied the old Kankakee
village between 1673 & 1692 ~~[illegible]~~ had a
material culture (that may be classified as being
of the Oneota aspect) that show a close relationship
to the material culture of the Chiwere Siouan
(Iowa and Otoe) of Iowa and Nebraska of
succeeding the same time period.

As may be seen these conclusions
are definite only on the wide plane of
archaeological investigation and classification
and as yet delve little into the ethnological
or social anthropological ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ E xamination of this
aspect of this problem. ~~[illegible]~~ site plus ethno-historical data (which has
already been gathered by Dr. S. Tooker) will perhaps
solve them and place the "direct historic
approach" on a ~~former~~ footing in Illinois (and
further indicate that the Mexican classification
and the direct historic approach are both
technique of reconstructing history that can
work hand in hand).

Survey.

~~1. Danner Cartside~~

~~1. Swanson's~~

Ls 12 - (Stamped Rock) 1. surface sherds
1. Iron object

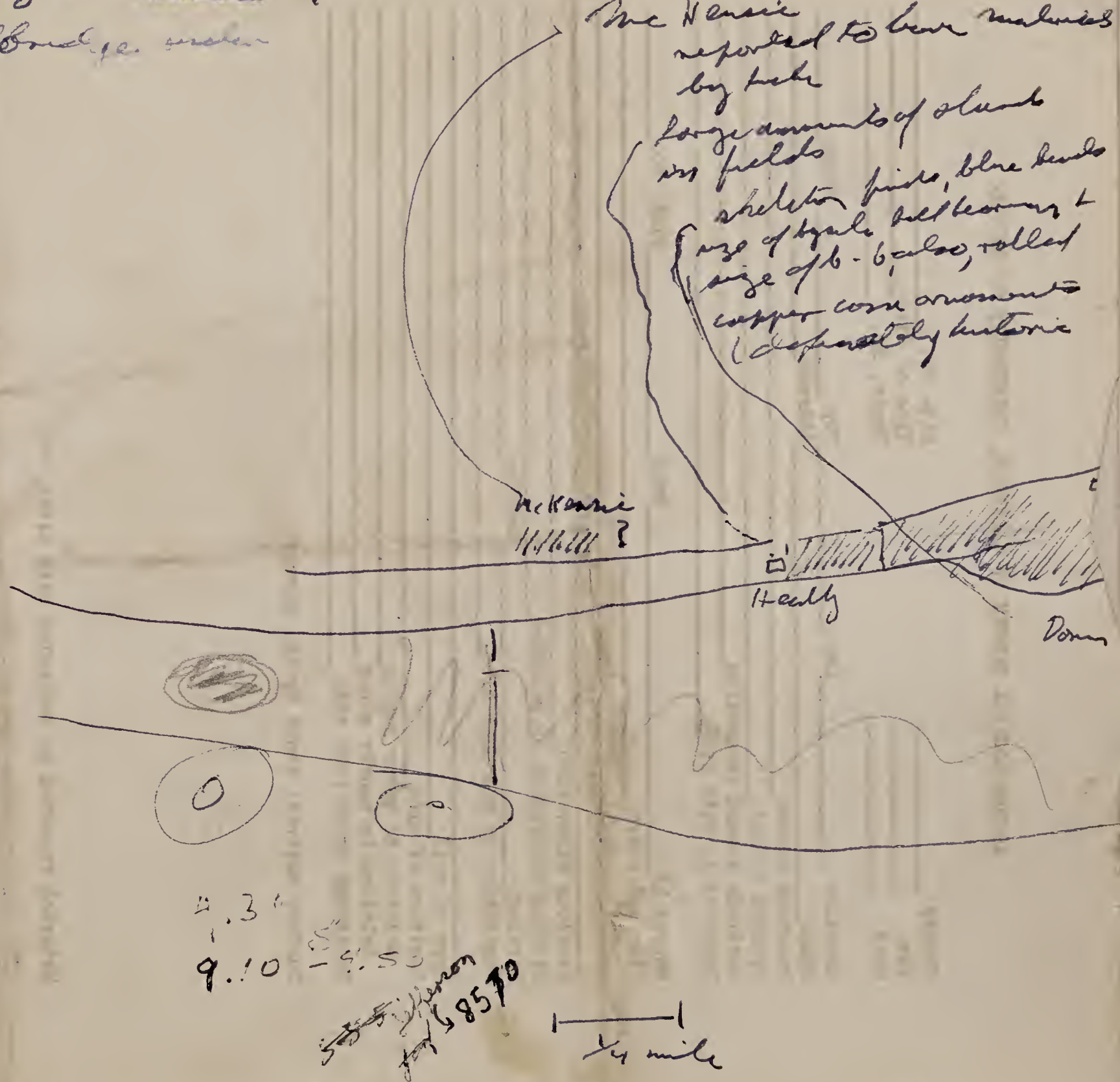
Ls 13 - Kankakee Village site

Ls 13-P1 - Swanson's surface
Ls 13-P2 - Sedmore's surface
Ls 13-P3 - Danner - east section
Ls 13-P4 - Surface pit (excavated possibly with skull.

Ls 13-P5 - Pit I
Ls 13-M6 - animal bone
Ls 13-A7 - scapula belts
Ls 13-M8 - shells from area between pit
Ls 13-P9 - sherds " " " "
Ls 13-P9 - heads & copper wire from Pit II
Ls 13-E10 - sherds (from pit II
Ls 13-P11 - stones (chief shell from Pit II)
Ls 13-M12 - Healy surface (general)
Ls 13-P13 - Healy surface projectile points
Ls 13-A14 - Healy pit II - sherds.
LS 13-P15 - Level 1 - Healy
LS 13-M16 - Level 1 - Healy level I 'conical pit
LS 13-P17 -

Ls 13 – M18 – bone level 2 Healy's pit II
Ls 13 – P19 – sherds level 2 Healy's – pit B
Ls 13 – M20 – bone Healy – pit 3 – level 3
Ls 13 – P21 – pottery – Healy – pit 3 – level 3
Ls 13 – M22 – bone & shell, Healy – pit 3 – level 4
Ls 13 – P23 – pottery – Healy – pit 3 – level 4
Ls 13 – P24 – pottery surface probably Danner
or Swanson – Miller

Dawson - somewhere Zimmerman in
plants book, - Dalbond, p. under
water



ILLINOIS STATE MUSEUM

THORNE DEUEL, CHIEF

SPRINGFIELD

April
16th
1945

Mr. Richard S. MacNeish
University of Chicago
Department of Anthropology
Chicago, Illinois

Dear MacNeish:

I have just gotten a train reservation to Chicago on Wednesday the eighteenth. I will arrive on the Illinois Central about 2:05, if the train is on time, and stop to see Sallie Tucker before I come on over to the Department to see you. It will be at least 2:30 before I can possibly get there and probably nearer 3:00.

If you can be around at about that time I will see you and we can go over the paper together. Then you can send it down or I can bring it down here and go over it in earnest. The train I have to come back on leaves at 5:00 p.m. so we will have to get at it and do things without much delay. If this is not possible, please let me know right away.

Sincerely

John C. McGregor

John C. McGregor
Acting Chief

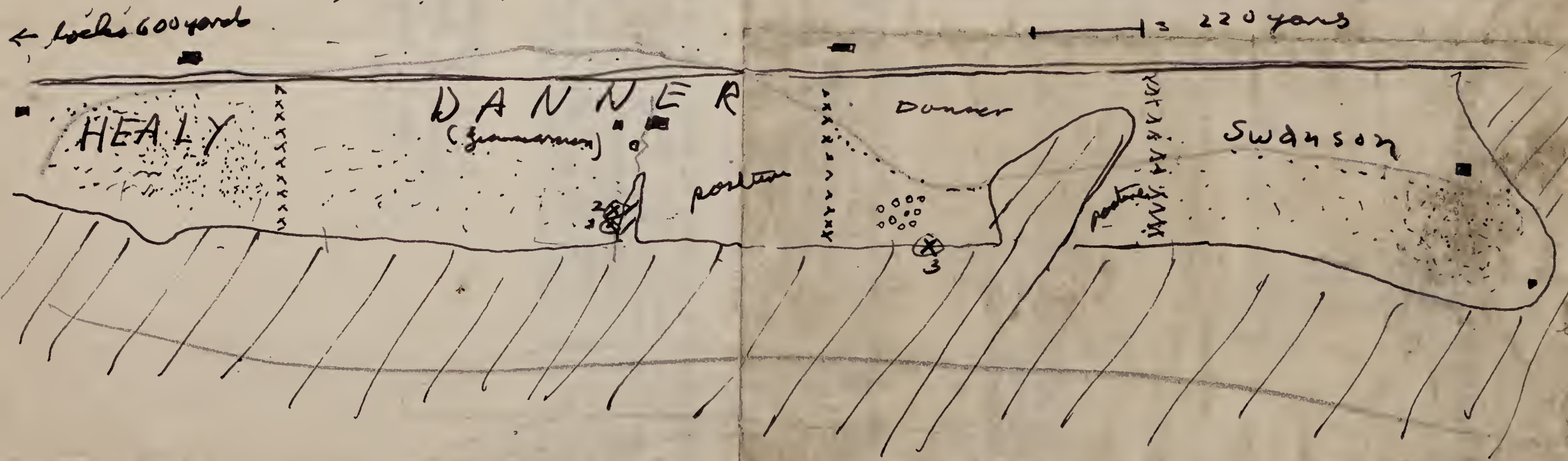
JCMc:k

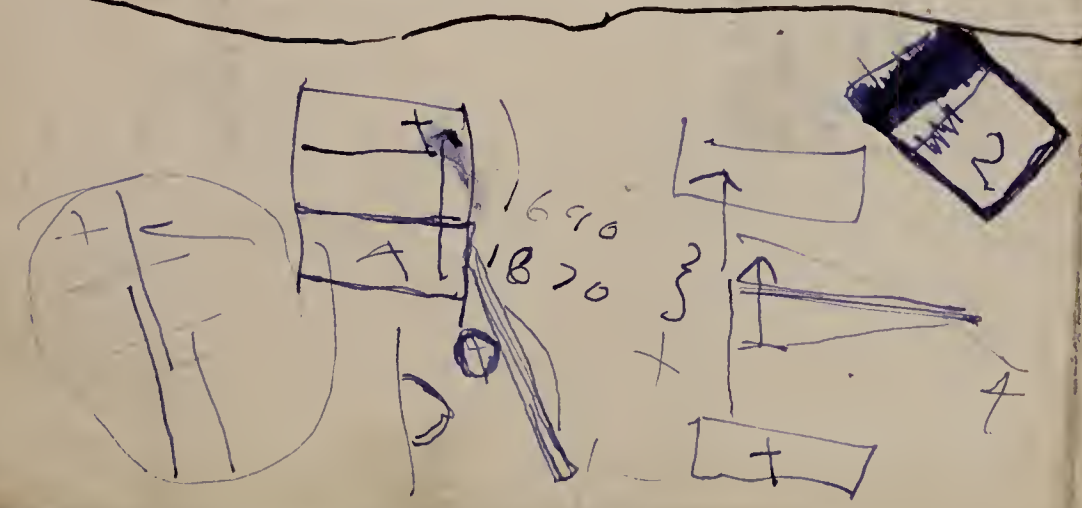
1. — Refuse pit, bell shapped - extended 3 ft from surface, Oneota pottery, sheet copper, buffalo & other animal bone

2. Burial pit - Child burial, (flexed on back) shell (Oneota) copper wire coils, blue beads, glass tube

3. Fire pit - charcoal - specimens

= water
= woodland (Cabin) Oneota
= habitation of shards.
xxxx - flint lines.
= excavations
= auto road.
= 220 yards





Jim Pagano

THE CERAMIC REPOSITORY FOR THE EASTERN UNITED STATES

ESTABLISHED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL, AND
ADMINISTERED BY THE MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS BUILDING
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

December 10, 1941

Mr. John Bennett
Department of Anthropology
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois:

Dear John:

Ideas fly thick and fast, eh! I meant my settling of the cord marked controversy was the presence of cord marked (C.W.P) in all or virtually all sites which can be called Hopewellian. Here I mean, Hopewell and not Adena, where it is only slightly less true.

I am enclosing a copy of a report I made to Schoenbeck of Peoria who has been gathering pottery from the Clear Lake site and sending it to me to aid in the classification. The Illinois report is now off the press and you might enjoy seeing that. Am Phil. Soc. Trans. Vol. 32, No.1. A Prehistory Research Number of mine also on Hopewell should be distributed any day. That plus George's should give you an idea of the clear, and contemporary differences between Ohio Hopewell and the Illinois Valley center. I do not care to use Elemental as it is a gross misrepresentation of what I believe the cultural relationship and time rleationship actually is. Run over the traits listed by Wilford for the Arvilla and Laurel Foci. Look at Winchell's Ab. of Minnesota plates on pottery and artifacts, especially the copper. Remember Ritchie's groupings in New York and the presence of this copper and duplicate forms in slate, which carries over into Red Paint. Then recall that McKern clearly demonstrates that his Hopewell mounds were clearly plaed on a village site which is simply Woodland plus. Then recall how this same phenomenon is present throughout the Valley, namely, the intertwinging of Hopewell into already existing Woodland groups which had reached local cultural specializations which we now amalgamate into Hopewellian. George has already put into print my strongest dig at the inclusion of cord-wrapped stick decoration as Marksville Stamped in the Crooks Site report. If you know, as I do, that the same sherds have been used in illustrations for Marksville Stamped at Crooks and as markers for Yokena, one's additional evidence for the relationship of lower valley Hopewell (middle Woodland) is perfectly clear.

You can't have Miss. inspired until you have Miss. The same sequence is present in west Tennessee as in southern Illinois. What is becoming increasingly apparent is that some portion of the large mound sites in the central Valley were erected by groups who did not maeke Middle Mississippi pottery-just a hell of a lot of it is cord marked. They also had small post trench houses.

In the Illinois report you will find the majority of Illinois Hopewellian sites of which I have cognizance. Is that Crooks Stamp I

see on U. of C. Neg. Ca 111? Or is that simply a stamp which occurs from Minnesota to the Atlantic Coast? I think I would call the sherd you drew and described Naples Dentate Stamped without any hesitation.

You can interpret anything, anyway you please, but others are allowed comment on your interpretations as you are on theirs. The man who has the best personality, is of course, right.

I wish to Christ people would stop moving "peoples" all over the country because they find typologically similar material in different areas. What were the Indian trails, and the waterways for? I know Deuel believes in this migration you mention, and you might immediately suspect that I don't. You are right. That means the question is open for discussion. Should I figure it out in a letter for you? You read the Turner report thoroughly and the other Ohio Hopewell reports thoroughly and then see what ideas you have. I think they will agree with mine.

Your modesty in only suggesting a Focus for Nickerson is becoming. I would suggest that Dr. Cole allow you to really study the Davenport collection which Bailey is now resurrecting. You will find some very interesing material there. You should consider the contiguous areas of Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois in your "focus". The Hopewellian material in southeastern Wisconsin is even more closely related to the Illinois Valley than is the stuff you have in mind. Why worry about the taxonomy until you know what your cultural complex actually is. Then let the chips fly where they may.

The time period covered in "Middle Woodland" includes Hopewell from one end of the valley to the other, and Copena. Now that means Marksville-Troyville as one condensed period. Most of Swift Creek. Most of what is called Wilmington, and possibly earliest Savannah. Late Woodland in Nebraska, and earliest Upper Republican there, Vine Valley, Laurel, Arvilla, Early Weeden Island which is hardly Weeden and pottery, but with the genetic or historical growth and development I pull out of the bag. There is only going to be one root, with a lot of grafting, mutations, and still births but why go on.

I would really like to have an evening with you, Caldwell, Maxwell, Cole and anyone else who really knows something about some area so that I try out my synthesis. If any one can think of good terms to apply to American Paleolithic and American Neolithic I wish they would let me know.

Best regards to all,

Jimmy

James B. Griffin

JBG:JBG

KASKASKIA Village